

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending. Claims 1-19 are rejected under the judicially created document of obviousness-double patenting with respect to U.S. Patent No. 6,692,251, which is the parent application.

Claims 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the reference of Shigeru et al. (JP 9010238) and Kennedy (U.S. Patent No. 5,420,768).

TERMINAL DISCLAIMER

To address the obviousness-double patenting rejection, the Applicants include herewith a terminal disclaimer disclaiming that portion of the pending application which extends beyond the parent application, U.S. Patent No. 6,692,251, as more specifically set forth in the terms of the terminal disclaimer.

SECTION 103 REJECTIONS

The Applicants have amended independent claim 13 to more specifically recite the invention and to recite that the light-emitting element has a plurality of generally bare semiconductor junctions which are positioned together to form multiple light-emitting surfaces. A generally clear protective layer is claimed, which simultaneously covers the plurality of semiconductor junctions for protecting the junction.

The Shigeru et al. reference discloses a plurality of individually packaged LEDs. It does not disclose a light-emitting element that has a plurality of generally bare semiconductor junctions positioned together to form multiple light-emitting surfaces wherein a generally clear protective layer simultaneously covers the plurality of semiconductor junctions. As such, the Shigeru et al. reference cannot render obvious the invention as recited in claim 13. The remaining dependent claims 14 and 15 each depend from claim 13 and further recite unique combinations of elements which are not rendered obvious by Shigeru et al. Claim 15 had been rejected over a combination of Shigeru et al. and Kennedy (U.S. Patent No. 5,420,768). However, Kennedy was merely recited for teaching a heat sink and the Shigeru et al./Kennedy combination certainly does not render obvious the invention as now claimed in claim 15.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants submits that the currently pending claims are in an allowable form. If any issues remain in the case which might be handled in an expedited fashion, such as through a telephone call or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is certainly encouraged to telephone the Applicant's representative or to issue an Examiner's Amendment.

The Applicants enclose a check for \$120.00 for a one-month extension of time to submit this Response herein and a check for \$130.00 for submission of a terminal disclaimer herein. Applicants know of no additional fees due herein with this submission. However, if any other charges or credits are necessary, please apply them to Deposit Account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kurt AS", is written over a horizontal line.

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